



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-3075, **Agenda Item #:** 24.

10/21/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the relocation and adjustments of existing water and wastewater lines and appurtenances in conflict with the I-35 Capital Express North Roadway Project in the amount of \$8,160,611.06 plus a contingency of \$816,061.11 for a total amount not to exceed \$8,976,672.17.

Lead Department

Public Works Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of Austin Water.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

October 6, 2021- Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on an 8-0 vote with Commissioner Atallah and Commissioner Turrieta off the dais.

Additional Backup Information:

This project includes the relocation and adjustment of existing water and wastewater lines in conflict with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) highway improvements along Interstate 35 (IH35) from SH 45 North to US 290. The work consists of relocating and constructing approximately 52,077 Linear Feet (LF) of water lines (WL) and 9,885 LF of wastewater lines (WWL) and appurtenances. This project is federally funded per the approved Standard Utility Agreement and in accordance with the regulations for federally funded projects, TxDOT is responsible for providing 100% of the engineering and construction costs and reimbursing the city for inspection and administrative costs of the projects except betterments.

The project also provides an opportunity for Austin Water to upgrade its existing infrastructure to better serve the growing Austin Metropolitan area. The requested upgrades and additions are considered “betterments” and will be constructed by TX DOT as part of the project and funded by Austin Water Department. Of the entire 52,077 LF WL and 9,885 LF WWL, the betterment portion consists of construction of approximately 19,825 LF of WL, and approximately 3,202 LF of WWL and construction of new appurtenances including service lines, manholes, gate valves, wet connections, and air release valves within the project limits.

The estimated total contract amount associated with construction, relocation, and adjustments of existing infrastructure, including betterments is \$ 24,493,569.97. The Advanced Funding Agreement allows the Austin Water Department to pay TxDOT an amount of \$ 8,160,611.06 for construction of betterments plus a 10% construction contingency in the amount of \$816,061.11 for a total contract amount of \$ 8,976,672.17. A 10% contingency in funding is requested to cover possible changes to the scope of betterments that may become necessary during construction due to unforeseen conditions.

The roadway in this Advance Funding Agreement was identified as a transportation improvement project by TxDOT. Austin Water's existing water and wastewater lines are required to be adjusted to accommodate the proposed roadway improvements, and this agreement will allow water and wastewater infrastructure in conflict to be adjusted. Executing this Advanced Funding Agreement will bring together the efforts of TxDOT and Austin Water in the design and construction of the roadway improvements and utility adjustments to reduce impacts to the public and save cost.

The construction of the roadway improvement of IH 35 from SH 45 N. to US 290 is scheduled to start within two months of the bid open date. The bid open date is currently scheduled for March of 2022. The water and wastewater line relocations and construction are scheduled to be completed first as part of the roadway improvement construction. All dates are dependent upon TxDOT design and construction contracts.

This project is managed by Public Works Department.

This project is located within the Austin Full Purpose Jurisdiction of Councils 1, 4 & 7.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment, Mobility.